

C O N F I D E N T I A L

MSGNO 60 (STXX) NAV *30/10/81* *04:58*
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 FM SECSTATE WASHDC
 TO EC COLLECTIVE
 RUFHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0000
 RUDKHLQ/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI 0000
 RUDKFDQ/AMEMBASSY LISBON 0000
 RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 0000
 RUDKSNQ/AMEMBASSY OSLO 0000
 RUDKRP/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 0000 State Dept. review completed
 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0000
 RUDKFMQ/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0000

BT

EZ1:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 289339

EZ2:

FOR DECD AND USEC

E.O. 12365: KOS-3 10/28/01 (JOHN A. WARNOCK)

TAGS: ELAB

SUBJECT: SOVIET AND FRENCH COMMUNIST TRADE UNION AGREEMENT

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REFERENCE: STATE 259500

FOR LABOR COUNSELORS AND ATTACHES

1. (C) SUMMARY. THE AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY THE CGT AND THE AUCCTU PROVIDE FOR A SERIES OF MEASURES AIMED AT MOBILIZING WESTERN EUROPEAN TRADE UNION OPPOSITION TO US AND NATO DEFENSE POLICIES, AND OTHER US INTERESTS. THE AGREEMENTS ALSO REPEATED EARLIER CGT AND AUCCTU CALLS FOR MORE GENERAL PAN-EUROPEAN TRADE UNION COOPERATION, PROPOSALS WHICH ARE RELEVANT NOT ONLY TO THE CURRENT EFFORTS TO OPEN UP THE ETUC TO THE SPANISH COMMUNISTS, BUT TO LONGER RANGE POSSIBILITIES IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION FIELD AS WELL. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) REFTEL PROVIDED THE TEXTS OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE AND MUTUAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED IN MOSCOW IN SEPTEMBER BY THE FRENCH COMMUNIST CONTROLLED CGT, AND THE SOVIET AUCCTU.

3. (U) THE VALUE OF THESE DOCUMENTS (IN ADDITION TO THE LIGHT THEY SHED ON THE BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO

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ORGANIZATIONS) LIES IN THE CONFIRMATION THEY PROVIDE AS
TO THE BROAD THRUST OF CURRENT COMMUNIST TRADE UNION
STRATEGY AND PROPAGANDA IN WESTERN
EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE. IN THAT CONNECTION, IT IS USEFUL
TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING MAJOR THEMES WHICH WERE DEVELOPED
IN THE CGT-AUCCTU'S "ANALYSIS" OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SCENE:

- THE UNITED STATES' DEFENSE POLICIES ARE RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE "DETERIORATION" IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION
SPECIFICALLY: THE DECISIONS TO MODERNIZE THE
TNF; BUILD THE NEUTRON BOMB; AND PROCLAIM "THE DOCTRI-
NE OF SO-CALLED LIMITED NUCLEAR WAR" (SIC) INCREASE
THE RISK OF CONFLICT.
- MOREOVER, INCREASES IN MILITARY EXPENDITURES CREATE
A SERIOUS ECONOMIC BURDEN FOR THE WORKING CLASS.
- UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK
FACING THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION MOVEMENT IS TO
FIGHT AGAINST THESE THREATS TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY.
- TO THAT END, THE CGT AND AUCCTU ADVOCATE:
 - (A) THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS AT ALL LEVELS, AND
PARTICULARLY BETWEEN THE US AND THE SOVIET UNION, TO
PREVENT "A NEW ROUND IN NUCLEAR MISSILE WEAPONRY."
 - (B) A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO THE MADRID TALKS.
 - (C) A CONFERENCE ON MILITARY DETENTE AND DISARMA-
MENT IN EUROPE.
 - (D) THE (WFTU PLANNED) WORLD TRADE UNION CONFERENCE
ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF DISARMAMENT;
WHICH WILL BE A DEMONSTRATION FOR "PEACE" AND IN
DEFENSE OF THE "ECONOMIC INTERESTS" OF THE WORKING
CLASS.
- 4. (D) IN ADDITION, THE DOCUMENTS ALSO IDENTIFY THE
FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS IN WHICH THE CGT AND THE
AUCCTU AGREE:
 - TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BRING ABOUT INTERNATIONAL
TRADE UNION UNITY IN THE STRUGGLES FOR "PEACE," FOR
"THE PRESERVATION OF LIVING STANDARDS AND SOCIAL
GAINS," AND AGAINST THE MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS.
 - TO STRENGTHEN THEIR COOPERATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF THE WFTU, AND HELP DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM
FOR THE UNIONS ENGAGED IN THE CLASS STRUGGLE AT THE
FEBRUARY WFTU CONGRESS IN HAVANA.
 - TO ENCOURAGE "FURTHER TRADE UNION ACTIONS IN THE
SPIRIT OF THE DECISIONS MADE BY THE 1980 BELGRADE
TRADE UNION CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENT"; THE DEVELOP-
MENT OF BUSINESS-LIKE TRADE COOPERATION ON THE
EUROPEAN CONTINENT ON THE BROADEST SPECTRUM OF SOCIO-
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS"; AND "REGULAR ALL-EUROPEAN TRADE
UNION CONFERENCES AS A PROMISING FORM OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN TRADE UNIONS OF DIFFERENT (IDEOLOGIES)."
 - TO WORK TOGETHER TO ELIMINATE ALL VESTIGES OF CO-
LONIALISM; TO ESTABLISH A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
ORDER; AND TO COOPERATE IN THE ILC TO ADVANCE THESE
GOALS.
- 5. (C) COMMENT: THERE SEEKS NOTHING PARTICULARLY NEW OR
UNUSUAL IN THE ANALYSIS OR COURSES OF ACTION OUTLINED
BY THE CGT AND AUCCTU. THEY ARE FULLY IN KEEPING
(ALBEIT IN AN INTERESTINGLY FORMALIZED WAY) WITH TRADITIONAL COMMUNIST "UNITY OF ACTION" TACTICS TO USE
EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO TRY TO ALIENATE THE

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 WESTERN EUROPEAN TRADE UNIONS FROM THE US; AND TO BRING
 THEM INTO CLOSER CONTACT, BOTH ORGANIZATIONAL AND
 PERSONALLY, WITH THEIR EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTERPARTS.

6. (C) HOWEVER, THE PUBLICATION OF THESE DOCUMENTS CO-
 INCIDES WITH OTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THE INTERNATIONAL
 TRADE UNION SCENE, WHICH CAUSE THEM TO TAKE ON A SOME-
 WHAT GREATER SIGNIFICANCE. PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT
 OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS IS THE CAMPAIGN, CURRENTLY UNDER-
 WAY WITHIN THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ETUC),
 TO ADMIT THE SPANISH COMMUNIST TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION.

7. (C) A NUMBER OF ETUC AFFILIATES OPENLY FAVOR ADMIT-
 TING ALL THE REMAINING MAJOR UNIONS IN WESTERN EUROPE
 NOT AFFILIATED I.E., THE SPANISH, PORTUGUESE, AND
 FRENCH COMMUNISTS (THE ITALIAN CGIL WAS ADMITTED ONCE IT
 LEFT THE WFTU - WITH SOVIET APPROVAL). OTHER EUROPEAN
 FEDERATIONS FEEL THAT ALTHOUGH THE SPANISH COMMUNISTS
 MERIT ADMISSION (AS INTERNALLY DEMOCRATIC) THE PORTU-
 GUESE AND FRENCH COMMUNIST UNIONS REMAIN UNACCEPTABLY
 "STALINIST" IN THEIR ORIENTATION. TO DATE, THE PRO-
 PONENTS OF ADMITTING THE SPANISH COMMUNISTS HAVE BEEN
 ABLE TO KEEP THE CANDIDACY ALIVE, AND HOPE TO WEAR DOWN
 THE OPPOSITION, OVER TIME. (ONE OF THE TACTICS APPAR-
 ENTLY BEING USED NOW, AS ON EARLIER OCCASIONS IS TO
 INSINUATE THAT THE GERMAN OPPOSITION TO THE COMMUNISTS
 IS NOT SOLID AND WILL "GIVE").

8. (C) SHOULD THESE TACTICS WORK, AND THE SPANISH
 COMMUNISTS BE ADMITTED, IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THERE
 WILL BE AN IRRESISTIBLE SLIDE TOWARDS ALSO ADMITTING THE
 FRENCH AND PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS. SHOULD THAT HAPPEN,
 IT WOULD MEAN, IN THE CASE OF THE FRENCH CGT, THE ENTRY
 INTO ETUC OF AN ORGANIZATION WHICH IS NOT ONLY THE LAST
 SIGNIFICANT WESTERN EUROPEAN MEMBER OF THE WFTU, BUT
 ALSO ONE WHICH IS IN FULL FORMAL ALLIANCE WITH THE
 AUCCTU AGAINST US INTERESTS AND WHICH IS WORKING FOR
 PAN-EUROPEAN TRADE UNION "COOPERATION" AND "UNITY."

9. (C) IN THAT CONNECTION, SOME OF THOSE ETUC AFFILI-
 ATES WHO ADVOCATE THE ADMISSION OF THE SPANISH COM-
 MUNISTS, (AND THE OTHERS), ARGUE THAT THE ETUC IS MERELY
 AN ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION, WHICH MUST BE AS FULLY REPRE-
 SENTATIVE AS POSSIBLE OF ALL THE TRADE UNIONS OF THE EC
 AND EFTA. SEEN FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF WASHINGTON, THE
 ETUC'S TRACK RECORD IS SUCH THAT IT CANNOT SERIOUSLY
 CLAIM TO BE AN APOLITICAL ORGANIZATION (E.G., ITS AC-
 TIONS ON TURKEY). RATHER THERE IS REASON TO SUSPECT
 THAT SOME OF THE DRIVING FORCE FOR THE ADMISSION OF THE
 SPANISH AND OTHER COMMUNISTS INTO ETUC IS PURELY POLIT-
 ICAL. SPECIFICALLY, SOME OF THE ETUC AFFILIATES SEEM
 TO WANT TO CREATE A WESTERN EUROPEAN TRADE UNION BLOC
 WHICH WOULD BE AS INDEPENDENT OF AMERICAN INFLUENCE AS
 THEY IMAGINE IT WOULD BE OF SOVIET. (IN THAT CONNECTION
 ADDRESSEES SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT SUCH CONFERENCES
 AS BELGRADE WERE HEAVILY FINANCED BY THE FRENCH CFDT AND
 THE ITALIANS; AND THAT REGIONAL EUROPEAN TRADE UNION
 CONFERENCES UNDER ILO AUSPICES ALREADY TAKE PLACE.) HAIG

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